

REMARKS

The Office Action dated 13 April 2005 has been reviewed, and the comments of the Patent Office considered. Claims 13, 21 and 22 have been amended, claims 23 and 24 have been added, claims 6, 7, 9, 18 and 20 were previously presented, claim 8 remains as originally filed, and claims 1-5, 10-12, 14-17 and 19 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Thus, claims 6-9, 13, 18 and 20-24 are respectfully submitted for reconsideration by the Examiner.

The allowance of claims 6-9, 18 and 20 is greatly appreciated, as is the indication that claims 21 and 22 contain allowable subject matter. In accordance with the Examiner's helpful suggestion, claims 21 and 22 have been rewritten in independent form. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the objections under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c) should be withdrawn and that claims 21 and 22 should also be allowed.

Claims 23 and 24 identically correspond to allowed claims 15 and 16, which were inadvertently canceled in the Amendment and Reply filed 28 February 2005. Applicant respectfully requests that the same claims that have already been allowed be reintroduced in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(5).

Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,373,467 to Wang in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,134,584 to Boler et al. ("Boler") and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,600,674 to Kasai et al. ("Kasai"). This rejection is respectfully traversed in view of the above amendment to claim 13 and the following remarks.

Applicant's claim 13 recites a memory device including "sensing voltage at the main bitline is induced by sensing current which is controlled by voltage at one of the plurality of sub bitlines according to a data stored in one of the plurality of memory cells". The Office Action relies on Kasai's Figure 7 to allegedly show a main bitline GBL and a sub bitline BLA. However, voltage of BLA is directly transferred to GBL via a switch as sensing voltage, and Kasai therefore fails to teach or suggest all of the features recited in Applicant's claim 13. Moreover, Wang and Boler fail to overcome the deficiencies of Kasai.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn and that claim 13 is allowable over the applied prior art.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that all objections and rejections be withdrawn and that a notice of allowance be forthcoming. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned for any reason related to the advancement of this case.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 08-1641.

Respectfully submitted,

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HELLER EHRMAN LLP
1717 Rhode Island Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036
Telephone: (202) 912-2000
Facsimile: (202) 912-2020

By Scott J. Anchell

Scott J. Anchell
Agent for Applicant
Registration No. 35,0359
Customer No. 26633

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(40296.0005)